

## CURRENCY AND TARIFF

### WILDCAT MONEY WORSE THAN GREENBACKS.

Two Opinions of State Bank Issues—Prices of Farm Implements—An Echo from Liverpool—Cleveland and the American Workingman.

#### The Violence of the State Bank Currency.

Every citizen of Wisconsin who desires to vote intelligently at the coming election should read the admirable exposition of the evils of wildcat money, by H. H. Camp, of this city, which appears elsewhere in this issue of the Wisconsin. Mr. Camp is one of the foremost authorities in the Northwest on financial subjects. His address was read before a convention of bankers, and is a careful statement by a business man and financier to business men and financiers, of the facts regarding the workings of the old state bank currency system in this part of the country.

From advance sheets of an official report now in course of preparation by the comptroller of the currency, in response to a congressional request for information on the subject, the following, corroborating and supplementing Mr. Camp's review of the history of state bank currency in this section, is extracted:

On June 30, 1858, the combined total bank note circulation of the states of Illinois and Wisconsin, all of which stood at a discount of 9 per cent., amounted to \$2,388,000, and it was protected by a specie reserve of only \$1,180,000. The total discount on the entire circulation amounted to more than \$800,000 at 9 per cent., and the discount on the state bank notes was as often as they paid out a note of either state.

A Washington correspondent, after studying this report, writes: "In July, 1859, a convention of Wisconsin bankers held at Milwaukee fixed the discount on Illinois bank notes at 1 per cent., until September 20, and 2 per cent., thereafter—which was the rate imposed by Illinois banks on notes of Wisconsin banks. This action illustrates another of the beauties of the 'system' to which the Democratic platform refers, and which the country must return. A like illustration is found in the action of the Indiana banks, which, when the Indiana currency was determined to throw out the notes of all Illinois and Wisconsin banks. At that time the estimated circulation of Illinois bank notes amounted to \$7,500,000, and that of Wisconsin banks to \$5,000,000. This action was justified on the ground that many of the banks were situated at remote points, making the cost and difficulties of redemption heavy, and that the Chicago banks discriminated against the Indiana banks.

Many people who do not remember the history which Mr. Camp and the comptroller of the currency so vividly set forth think that the loss of noteholders by the collapse of state banks was a disaster of the evil that would result from the re-establishment of state banks as banks of issue. This is a mistake. Even if the state banks were good, there would be a heavy tax upon the business of the country, represented by the cost of exchange. With a national currency, a man who makes a purchase in New York or elsewhere outside of the state can use his money at its face value, but state currency is a mere vogue, a Wisconsin man making purchases in New York would find his Wisconsin money subject to a discount. It has been estimated that the loss by discounts which would be entailed upon the business of the country if state bank currency were revived would be \$100,000,000 per annum.

This is only a part of the utterly useless tax that the vicious Democratic financial policy would inflict upon the people. Frequent failures, periodical panics, the suspension of payments and the utter demoralization of business—these would be the natural and necessary outcome of the policy supported by the party of retrenchment and reform, represented by John L. Mitchell and Grover Cleveland.

#### State Banks Worse Than Greenbacks.

Business men will not fail to see that the banking system now proposed to the country by the Chicago convention would be adopted, prove a financial affliction, and that the flooding of the country with greenbacks, which so large a portion of that party recently favored. For of greenbacks it could be said that they would have the government back of them, but if the old system of state banks should be revived they would soon become, as they did before, a sluceway for pouring over the country a flood of notes without paper security. All that would be so, but there would be millions of unprotected or only partially secured money in circulation.

President Harrison, in his letter of acceptance, vividly pointed out the evils of affairs when the old system of state banks was in its baleful period. The postmaster-general, in a communication to the late Congress, presented some startling statistics on the failures of private banks, which became of momentous interest, since the Democrats have announced it to be their policy to remove all restrictions upon the circulation of state banks. The postmaster-general says:

"That private banking institutions do not afford adequate security to depositors is most clearly demonstrated by the statistics at the command of the government, showing the failure of private banks, and contrasting these failures with the extent and effect with the losses incurred through the insolvency of national banks. These statistics are comparatively limited, but, such as they are, they show a strong proof of mismanagement and recklessness of concerns free from adequate governmental or state restraints as to furnish the best evidence upon the point desired in this discussion to be the cause of the national banking system until 1879, a period of sixteen years, only eighty-one national banks had become insolvent, and the estimated losses all told were \$1,240,189. It is stated in the publications on the subject that fifty-five banks, operating under systems in vogue prior to the national banking system, failed in the single year 1841, and aggregated capital of over \$67,000,000. And it is also recorded that in nearly every instance the entire capital of the banks which failed was lost. The losses incident to the failure of private banks, and the losses of the state banks, were equal to the total losses which had up to that time occurred under the national banking system. During three years ending January 1, 1879, the failures of state and savings banks and private banks in twenty-three states numbered 210, with losses amounting to \$32,516,661.

"The average annual losses to creditors by the insolvency of national banks during sixteen years prior to 1879 was \$380,012, while that occasioned by the failure of banks other than national was for three years prior to 1879 not less than \$10,872,390 per annum. The losses of private banks, and the losses of the state banks, were equal to the total losses which had up to that time occurred under the national banking system. During three years ending January 1, 1879, the failures of state and savings banks and private banks in twenty-three states numbered 210, with losses amounting to \$32,516,661.

"In eight years the losses to creditors through the failures of national banks in the cities of New York and Brooklyn were \$91,000, while the losses by savings banks in the same two cities for a corresponding period were nearly \$4,500,000.

In addition to the above, it may be stated that according to a late report of the comptroller of the currency, the failures of 117 banks, brokers, trust companies and savings banks in this country, having an aggregate of liabilities of over \$38,000,000 and assets but \$20,000,000. These figures are not only of importance



to financiers, but they are of vital interest to every laboring man and small capitalist. The men of small means are deeply concerned in having sound money. There is nothing which can more seriously threaten workmen and those of moderate means than a revival of wildcat banking. Every thoughtful reader will carefully consider the argument which the figures given above present.

**Prices of Farm Implements.**  
After being thoroughly exposed and withdrawn from service by the Democrats in the campaign of 1888 and 1890 the old falsehood concerning the prices of farm implements in the United States and elsewhere is being pressed into service again. In answer to numerous inquiries we reproduce the substance of the old controversy that is undergoing a renewal in certain of the less generally circulated Democratic newspapers.

The retail price of farm implements is lower in the United States than in any other country. That is to say the American farmer can buy a hay rake, a mowing machine, a reaper, a cultivator, a roller, a threshing machine, or any like implement at a lower price than the farmer of any other country.

The figures dishonestly circulated by the Democratic press represent the retail price—the price for one implement in the United States—and the wholesale price—the price for very many such implements to foreign dealers.

But when these figures are false in amount, as well as dishonest in their application. The country press frequently has given instances of lower prices in village stores than are noted in the Democratic list, and a farmer at Bridgeport, N. Y., wrote to the New York World, in which newspaper the wonderful Wilson first published his false charge, that he had bought a hay rake in the local store at less price than Wilson quoted as wholesale rate. The World was honest enough to print the letter. S. L. Allen & Co., of Philadelphia, also wrote the World in contradiction of Wilson's figures. They said, among other things:

We deny altogether that our prices to the domestic trade for the same quality of goods are higher than to the export trade. It is the practice of many makers to prepare an inferior, and therefore lower priced, class of goods for the foreign trade, but for the same quality of goods there is no reduction.

Furthermore Allen & Co. said: We deny that our fireproof plan is ever quoted at the price you give. We deny that we are advertising to sell abroad at retail prices, or as cheap, as we sell at wholesale at home.

The McCormick Reaper Company, the Studebaker Wagon Company, the Oliver Chilled Plow Company, the Ames Shovel Company and several other eminent firms made explicit denial through the columns of the Inter-Ocean of any knowledge of lower prices to foreign than to domestic customers. This put an end to the wicked system of falsehoods in 1890.

Please notice that during the two years in which there was no political excitement the Democrats have not dared to repeat these false charges. They are reissued now on the eve and in the excitement of a general election, and are confined to the country press, evidently in hope that they will escape the notice of the larger and better-informed newspapers.

Except where sales are made in very large lots, and for cash on delivery on goods of no standard American quality, the domestic trade is sold lower to the foreign than to the domestic trade. Inferior goods, made purposely for export trade, of course, sell lower than standard goods made for the home market.

Reverting to our first assertion that the American farmer pays less for his implements than the farmer of any other country, we reproduce some figures, first published by an American newspaper, and then by the Anamosa (Iowa) Europa. In proof thereof. It is about four years since they were published, and no free-trade writer or speaker has dared to call them in question. The British prices are given in the factory, the American prices are prices at a store in Anamosa, which is a little town of 2,000 souls. Note the difference:

	Best Star	Iowa Price.
Wagon	\$150.00	\$100.00
Light cart	75.00	50.00
Grain-grinding mill	150.00	100.00
Horse-harrow	10.00	7.00
Plow	10.00	7.00
Land-roller	25.00	15.00

Hon. Thomas Dudley, when acting as American consul in France, made a careful examination of the comparative prices of farm implements in America and Europe, and found that they were, on an average, 30 per cent. cheaper in price and 50 per cent. better in quality here than abroad.

**Cleveland's Election the Only Hope for British Manufacturers.**  
The outlook for British trade is decidedly not encouraging just at present. The effect of the "stone wall" of tariff which our cousins in the United States—a little more than kin and less than kind—have erected around their territory avowedly to keep out British manufactures is every day becoming more disastrous.

Already saltire, that once proud model of an English industrial community, is as good as gone. The WELSH TIN PLATE INDUSTRY, which has been transferred to a point within the tariff wall. The cotton trade of Lancashire is so depressed that no one knows what may come next, and consequently all brisk enterprise is strangled, and a general feeling of apprehension prevails as regards what the narrow way may bring forth. The latest evidence of the injury done to British trade by the McKinley tariff—which, while not enriching the United States population, but only the interested manufacturers, makes us on this side poor indeed—is afforded by the balance-sheet of the Steel Company of Scotland, which shows a balance on the wrong side of no less than £13,000.

Two questions which will soon force themselves upon the minds of the working people, to whom the continued maintenance and prosperity of our industries is

the very bread of life, are: How long is this to last, and how may it be remedied? It is extremely doubtful whether the people of the United States will have either the foresight or the courage to abrogate within any reasonable period a law which they are told by many of their most trusted leaders is the necessary basis of their eventual industrial supremacy; and further, for some reason which on this side of the Atlantic it is difficult to comprehend, the operation of "twisting the British lion's tail" appears to be attended with supreme delight to the thoroughbred Yankee, and hardly less so to the hybrid glomeration of races which forms so large a portion of the population of the republic.

**UNDOUBTEDLY, THE ALL-EGOTIST, THE SUCCESS-ADDICT, THE PRESIDENT-ELECT, POLLING MR. CLEVELAND, WHO HAS PLEDGED HIS PARTY TO A REVUE EN TABLIER, THE FUTURE OF BRITISH MANUFACTURES, AND OF THE SUBSIDIARY INDUSTRIES DEPENDENT UPON THEM IS DARK INDEED.** No doubt the old country will pull through somehow, as she has done before, but it is not to be indefinitely maintained it will be at a cost in suffering and poverty which is at present impossible to estimate, and it may further involve a permanent lowering of the greatly improved standard of comfort which has been attained by the working classes of this country during the present century.

#### The Record of Cleveland as to Labor.

In the Democratic platform, adopted at Chicago, occurs the following: We denounce the McKinley tariff law, enacted in 1890, as one of the most oppressive and unjust measures ever passed by Congress, and we promise its repeal as one of the first and most important duties of the President-elect.

The fifty-first section of the present Republican tariff, known as the McKinley law, provides as follows: Section 51. That all goods, wares, articles of merchandise, manufactured wholly or in part in any foreign country by convict labor shall not be admitted into any of the ports of the United States, and the importation thereof is hereby prohibited, and the secretary of the treasury is authorized to prescribe such regulations as may be necessary for the enforcement of this provision.

Under the direction of this statute, no article of merchandise is to be imported into a sworn statement from the shipper and the importer that it is not the product of convict labor. This is a part of the law which the Democratic platform declares will be repealed, and the power is entrusted to the Democratic party.

If it is argued that the Democratic attack upon the McKinley law is not aimed at this particular section, the answer is that Mr. Cleveland, as President of the United States, has already committed himself to the policy of employing convicts in government works, and of deriving government revenue from their labor in direct competition with the honest citizen.

Not only would Mr. Cleveland admit the product of foreign convict labor, but he would employ all the convicts in federal prisons in industrial pursuits, and would allow the government to make money out of their work.

In his annual message, dated December 6, 1888, Mr. Cleveland, referring to the construction of penitentiaries for the confinement of criminals, said: "The construction of buildings a first mortgage on the United States courts, says:

Upon consideration of this subject it might be wise to erect at such places as would best subserve the purposes of business and economy in transportation. The convicts, as at present in state institutions, would be saved by the adoption of the plan proposed, and by employment in the manufacture of such articles as were needed for use by the government, quite a large pecuniary benefit would be realized.

Not only by this ugly recommendation, but by actually twice preventing the full enactment of anti-convict labor laws has Mr. Cleveland demonstrated his desire to utilize prison labor in competition with the labor of freemen. In 1888, and again in 1889, he killed by "pocket vetoes," acts of Congress, forbidding the use, by the government, of the product of convict labor. This law became operative only when Cleveland was defeated, and Gen. Harrison became President. Then it was promptly signed.

The following is an itemized record of Cleveland's acts in opposition to labor reforms:

While governor of New York:

He vetoed the bill establishing a department of labor and making a secretary of said department a cabinet officer.

He vetoed the mechanics' lien law, making the wages of workmen engaged in the construction of buildings a first mortgage on the property.

He vetoed the life and limb bill, making employers responsible for accidents happening from imperfect machinery or inferior construction of buildings.

He vetoed the tenement house cigar bill, forbidding the manufacture of cigars in tenement houses.

He vetoed the bill compelling the elevated roads of New York City to charge only 5 cents fare.

He vetoed the printers' bill, requiring all state printing to be done by union workmen.

He vetoed the bill making ten hours a legal day's work for all street car employees.

He vetoed the bill abolishing convict labor in prisons, although this proposition when he vetoed it was supported by the people was carried by a majority of 90,000.

He vetoed the child-labor law providing for the inspection of factories where children were employed, and prohibiting the employment of children under 14 years of age.

He signed the bill compelling the stationary engineers of New York City to pay a tax of \$2 per year to the police pension fund or be debarred from following their vocation.

He signed the bill reducing the fees of the New York harbor pilots, which bill benefited only the foreign steamship monopolies.

While President of the United States:

He killed by a "pocket veto" the arbitration bill, compelling the reference to impartial arbiters of labor controversies in certain contingencies.

He killed by a "pocket veto" the anti-convict labor bill of 1890, and also that of 1888, forbidding the use by government officials of any merchandise the product of convict labor.

And, in his message of 1888, he recommended the employment of convicts in federal prisons and the use by the government of the product of their labor.

#### The Democratic Party on Free Sugar.

The St. Paul Globe, the leading Democratic paper in Minnesota, makes this statement as to the sugar question:

What shall be said of a newspaper which points to the low price of sugar as a proof of the virtue of protectionism?

Sugar is lower priced than it used to be, not because the duty on it has been increased, but because the duty on it has been removed.

It is an insult to the intelligence of the American people to assume that, after years of public discussion of the tariff question by the greatest and most prominent men in the land, they do not understand the difference between revenue duty on an imported article the like of which we do not produce, and a protective duty levied on competing imports for the protection of American labor and the support of American industry. We do not propose, therefore, again to enter into the discussion of a subject which has been explained hundreds of times in the columns before, and it is only in order to satisfy our curiosity that we ask the Globe how in the name of common sense the free trade papers can have the impudence to point to the benefits of free sugar as a justification of their own position on the tariff question, when every Democratic congressman and senator from South, North, East and West voted against the removal of the sugar duties? Moreover, we have the assurance of the Louisville Courier-Journal, a free trade advocate if ever there was one, to the effect that:

Just as soon as the Democrats get the power they will wipe out the odious Republican sugar-bounty system and restore the sugar duties. Instead of paying millions of bounty out of the treasury to sugar planters, we will establish the revenue tariff on sugar, yielding annually about \$50,000,000 to the treasury.

Strange, isn't it, that the free traders wish to restore the very duties the good effects of the abolition of which they claim as a triumph of free trade? But, then, what kind of consistency or honesty can be expected from a party that ever belittles the achievements of American citizens, despises American products, and is fighting under a foreign flag to-day, just as truly as it was thirty years ago, when free trade, slavery and treason supported each other and fell together before the arms of true American citizens fighting then as they are fighting now in the cause of the Union and protection?—*American Economist.*

#### They Don't Mean What They Say.

Being very much alarmed about the political effect of the free trade plank in the Democratic platform, the Boston Herald undertakes to make out that it does not express the purpose of the party, and says it "was put in there partly in thoughtlessness and partly in mischievousness."

It is a serious reflection on the Massachusetts delegates, who voted for it 26 to 4. It is also a confession of trifling with the gravest interests of the people, which forfeits all confidence in the party. As usual, the Herald is false. The plank was deliberately substituted for a protection plank which had been reported by the committee. It was adopted after a full and earnest debate, and by the large majority of 222.

Ex-Congressman Frank Hurd, of Ohio, one of the leading Democrats in the country, says it is "a step forward in the ultimate of free trade," and that "those who do not want to look toward free trade as the final policy of the United States, and who are in the Democratic party, are there by mistake." Thousands of Democrats are hissing him as a traitor for leaving the party, and that's what the matter with the Herald.

It favors free trade, advocates it every day, says Mr. Cleveland stands for it, but when a big result begins to appear in the party it shouts to the voters: "Oh, we didn't mean it; we were only in fun, indulging in a little innocent mischief, don't check us, and if you'll only remain by us we may win, we will not let you out of your heads at any blow, but will mercifully begin at your feet and take off you on inch at a time."

#### The Democrats are for Wildest Money.

The plank in the Democratic platform favoring the repeal of the 10 per cent. tax on the circulation of state bank notes, suppose, original with the Chicago convention, nor the work of some crank who stole it through the committee on resolutions without attracting attention. The proposition had been heard of before, but in Congress a bill covering it having been introduced in the House and pressed to a vote, it was known as House Bill No. 8,602, and was presented by Mr. Richardson, of Tennessee, at the first session of the present Congress, and read as follows:

Be it enacted that Section 3412 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, which imposes a tax of 10 per cent. on the circulation of state banks or state banking associations, and which imposes a tax on all banks and banking associations which receive or pay out the notes of circulation of state banks and state banking associations, be and the same is hereby repealed.

June 6, 1892, it came up for consideration, and, being put upon its passage, the vote was as follows: Ayes, 81, all Democrats; nays, 116, not voting, 128. So, it will be seen that the measure received the support of a majority of the Democratic members voting; which, taken in connection with the action of the convention in Chicago, and Cleveland's letter acquiescing in the repeal of the tax, states fully committed to the policy of wildcat banking and shipplaster currency such as afflicted the country in ante-bellum times. Do the people want this? If they do, they should vote the Democratic ticket every time.

#### Drink Only at Night.

There is a peculiar class of drinkers of intoxicating beverages that the general public knows but little of—I mean the night drinkers. They can be numbered by the score, and are men who never take a drink in the daytime, but begin to "howl up" after they get through their day's work. They "show up" all right next morning, transact their business as usual, and a majority of their acquaintances would be willing to swear that they were teetotalers, when, in fact, they are drunkards.

## HUMOR OF THE WEEK.

### STORIES TOLD BY FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

Many Odd, Curious, and Laughable Phases of Human Nature Graphically Portrayed by Eminent Word Artists of Our Own Day.

#### Some Sharp Sayings.

THE mother tongue is probably the language of Mars.—Yonkers Statesman.

CONTESTANTS in the running races at the fair should prepare by taking a bottle of catchup.—Lowell Courier.

THE man who was too full for utterance went to jail instead of going to the fight.—New Orleans Picayune.

"GETTING ahead" in the liquor traffic isn't always to be interpreted as an assurance of progress.—Boston Courier.

THE hot spell of summer is known as the dog days because it is too warm then to make sausage.—Hazelton Sentinel.

SO MANY people go around looking as though they had a piece of Limburger cheese under their noses.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

JUDGING BY SOUND.—Phwat's that noise, Mis' Mullaly? "Mary Ann's practisin' the scales." "Begorra, she must weigh a ton."—Judge.

THE self-closing door-spring is an awful aggravation to the man who is going out of your office mad and wants to slam the door.—Siftings.

GOWITT—What, you broke, Broly! I thought you had a snug sum in the bank for a rainy day? Broly—So I had, but it rained on the bank.—Puck.

I HEAR Harkins was struck by lightning down on the Jersey coast last week. "Yes," "I wonder what they charged him for it."—Harper's Bazar.

BROTHER—"You look sad." Barlow—I am. I took my best girl to church and put \$2 in the plate in order to impress her and she never saw it.—New York Herald.

I THINK," said the man who saw the distortions of his ready-made clothes reflected in a mirror, "that this would unquestionably be a suit for Willie."—Washington Star.

WILLIE wanted to drive the horses. "You can't drive," said his father. "Yes, I can too," insisted Willie. "Mamma says I drive her crazy 'most every day."—Detroit Free Press.

DOCTOR—"Do not expose yourself to heavy dews of the night air while in the country, my dear." Daughter—"Why, pa, where did you learn so much about bangs?"—New York Weekly.

A REASONABLE REQUEST.—Wee Son—Mamma, me wants pants. Mamma—My pet is too little yet. Wee Son—Well, me flinks me might have s'penders to my dwees, anyhow.—Good News.

"We must attack this trouble promptly," said the physician. "Yes," replied the patient, who had just taken a dose of medicine, "but I wish you could be a little less bitter in your attacks."—Washington Star.

THE Boston girl never hollers "hello" at the mouth of the telephone. She simply says, as she puts the receiver to her ear: "I take the liberty of addressing you via a wire recharged with electricity."—Texas Siftings.

"THAT beats me," said good Mrs. Jason, as she read that a fire was supposed to have been caused by "nice eating matches." "I've heard of pie-eating matches and sitch, but this is a new one."—Indianapolis Journal.

GRANDEUR OF THE MIDDLE NAME.—Happy the young woman nowadays who has a middle name with a sonorous sound. Susan C. Nipper looks commonplace, but Susan Chalmers Nipper is too fine for anything.—Boston Transcript.

"I WOULDN'T care to be Lawyer Browne on Judgment Day. He'll be in the soup." "No, he won't. Browne's smart. He'll get an adjournment of his case to next day, and then there won't be any next day."—Brooklyn Life.

"WRY," inquired Slug 1144, "is the letter 'S' like an unpaid wash bill?" "Is this one of those new progressive fakes?" suspiciously asked Slug 711.

"Naw. An unpaid wash bill is like the letter 'S' because it might make aspirin of a printer."—Indianapolis Journal.

HUSBAND—"Well, how is my wife progressing?" Doctor—"Hum! nothing dangerous. I think if I prescribe four weeks at Wiesbaden she will be all right. But if you excite her temper through opposition, it might easily run to eight weeks at the seaside."—Eulenspiegel.

DELLA—"Can't you go down shopping with me this afternoon? I want to get my husband a birthday gift. Esther—Yes; what are you going to get him?" Della—Well, I have been thinking about it for some time, and I think I need table linen and rugs more than anything.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

Next Lesson—"The Gospel Preached at Antioch."—Acts 11: 19-30.

Growth of Steam.

STEAM whistles introduced into manufacturing about 1830.

LOCOMOTIVE placed on Liverpool and Manchester road 1825.

QUINCY road, first in United States, opened for traffic in 1825.

THE Rocket locomotive, 1829, made thirty-five miles an hour.

JOHN BRAITHWAITE built the first steam engine in 1830.

BRAITHWAITE's engine, 1830, threw 50 gallons of water a minute ninety feet high.

Swearing him in.



## THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

### SERIOUS SUBJECTS CAREFULLY CONSIDERED.

A Scholarly Exposition of the Lesson—Thoughts Worthy of Calm Reflection—Half an Hour's Study of the Scriptures—Time Well Spent.

#### Peter at Caesarea.

The lesson for Sunday, Oct. 23, may be found in Acts 10: 34-48.

INTRODUCTION.

Here is an excellent missionary lesson. Very timely it is, just at this time when the churches, young people's societies and Sunday-schools are girding themselves for the mighty lift that shall give us the million dollars for foreign missions wanted in the North. Peter goes out on the first great missionary itinerary. Outstationed work is begun with the household of Cornelius, and well begun. It is a blessed work, owned and sealed of the Spirit. Let us go on with it.

WHAT THE LESSON SAYS.

And Cornelius said, What lies between this and the last lesson has to do with the preliminaries of the great proclamation.—Until this hour. We read in verse three that it was the ninth hour, i. e., 3 p. m. Here it is repeated.—I prayed better, I was praying, or engaged in prayer, copula and participle.—Bright, Or, shining, from the verb to give light.

Thy prayer is heard. Not simply heard, but hearkened to. The full form of the verb. Had in remembrance. A merely general statement of the communication of verse four.

Send, therefore. A little more close than the preceding, but still sufficiently variant from the original, verses five and six, to indicate that he is quoting from memory. It is an interesting study in Biblical restatement, showing how inconsiderable, in most cases, the variations are.—Who when he cometh shall speak unto thee. Omitted by Tischendorf.

Immediately. A strong word, like on the spot in its make-up.—All here. He had gathered in his kinsmen and near friends, v. 24.—Before God. The attitude of prayerful service. The model for congregational service.—Commanded thee of God. Or, of the Lord. Cornelius recognized the divine origin of the message.

Opened his mouth. Introducing formal discourse or deliberate speech.—I perceive. Or, I grasp, apprehend, of something unexpected or surprising.—Kosmos, of persons. One word in the Greek, face-receiver, i. e., partial.

Accepted. Not in the sense of saved, for Cornelius is not yet a Christian. The word refers to favorable reception; he is in a condition to appear before the king and receive his gracious gifts. The word is also used at Luke 4: 19-24. "Acceptable (propitious) year of the Lord." No prophet is accepted in his own country.